



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

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# News Release

## **NEW HAVEN WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL CURRENCY VIOLATIONS**

NEW HAVEN, CT—Kevin J. O'Connor, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that Deyse Huertas, 37, of 65 Clay Street, New Haven, pleaded guilty today to one count of structuring monetary transactions and one count of operating an unlicensed money transmitting business. United States District Judge Janet C. Hall accepted Huertas' pleas of guilty in Bridgeport federal court.

According to documents filed with the court and statements made in court, Huertas owned and operated a business known as Casey's Express, located at 374 Lombard Avenue in New Haven, which advertised services that included money exchange and wire remitting, international calling cards, delivery of international packages, specialty products, fax and photocopying. The investigation revealed that, from 2000 to 2003, Huertas operated this business as an unlicensed money remitting business through which \$1,370,704.67 was illegally wire transferred to Ecuador.

As further revealed during today's court proceeding, Huertas, and others working on her behalf, made cash deposits just below the \$10,000 currency transaction reporting requirement at several local banks. Huertas often deposited amounts between \$9,000 and \$9,900 into bank accounts and immediately wired the money to accounts at Pacific National Bank in Ecuador held in the name of Moises Thaelman Sandoval Franco and Margarita Maria Moreno Patino.

Judge Hall has scheduled sentencing for November 22, 2005, at which time Huertas faces a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years and a fine of up to \$500,000.

This matter was investigated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mark D. Rubino.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*